

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A coolant comprising:

a water-containing base material; and

a corrosion-preventive additive that functions to keep an electric conductivity of said coolant at a low level and to maintain a hydrogen ion exponent of said coolant in a substantially neutral level wherein said coolant has an electric conductivity equal to or less of less than about 100 μ S/cm, and wherein the additive comprises at least one of a phosphoric acid compound at less than about equal to or more than 0% but less than 0.2% and an organophosphoric acid compound at less than about 0.2% equal to or more than 0% but equal to or less than 0.01%.

2. (Previously Presented) A coolant in accordance with claim 1, wherein the base material is a solution containing a glycol.

3. (Previously Presented) A coolant in accordance with claim 1, wherein the corrosion-preventive additive includes at least one of an alkaline additive and an acidic additive.

4. (Previously Presented) A coolant in accordance with claim 1, wherein the corrosion-preventive additive includes an alkaline additive and an acidic additive.

5. (Previously Presented) A coolant in accordance with claim 4, wherein the alkaline additive is an ethanolamine.

6. (Previously Presented) A coolant in accordance with claim 5, wherein the ethanolamine is one of triethanolamine, diethanolamine, and monoethanolamine.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Previously Presented) A coolant in accordance with claim 1, wherein the corrosion-preventive additive causes said coolant for fuel cells to have a hydrogen ion exponent of about 6 to 9.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Previously Presented) A coolant in accordance with claim 1, wherein the corrosion-preventive additive exhibits corrosion-preventive characteristics against aluminum material.

11. (Currently Amended) A coolant for fuel cells that is used to cool down fuel cells, comprising:

a water-containing base material; and
a rust-preventive additive that is a nonionic series substance, wherein the
nonionic series substance functions to keep an electric conductivity of said coolant for fuel
cells at a low level suitable for use in fuel cells and to maintain a hydrogen ion exponent of
said coolant for fuel cells in a substantially neutral level.

12. (Previously Presented) A coolant in accordance with claim 11, wherein the nonionic substance includes at least one of a saccharide and a nonionic surfactant.

13. (Previously Presented) A coolant in accordance with claim 11, said coolant is decontaminated by a coolant decontamination system using either one of an ion exchange resin and a chelating resin.

14. (Previously Presented) A coolant in accordance with claim 1, said coolant has undergone deoxidation.

15. (Withdrawn) A method of enclosing a coolant in accordance with claim 1 in a cooling circuit for a stack of fuel cells, said method comprising the steps of: deoxidizing said coolant; and enclosing said deoxidized coolant with an inert gas in said cooling circuit.

16. (Previously Presented) A cooling system, said cooling system comprising: a coolant in accordance with claim 1; and a cooling circuit in which said coolant and an inert gas are enclosed.

17. (Withdrawn) A method of decontaminating a coolant, said method of comprising the steps of:

preparing a water-containing base material;
preparing a rust-preventive additive that functions to keep an electric conductivity of said coolant at a low level and to maintain a hydrogen ion exponent of said coolant in a substantially neutral level; and
removing deteriorating substances from a solution mixture of the base material and the rust-preventive additive with either one of an ion exchange resin and a chelating resin.

18. (Previously Presented) The coolant according to claim 1, wherein the coolant is used in a fuel cell system.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 17, wherein the coolant has a conductivity of less than about 100 μ S/cm.